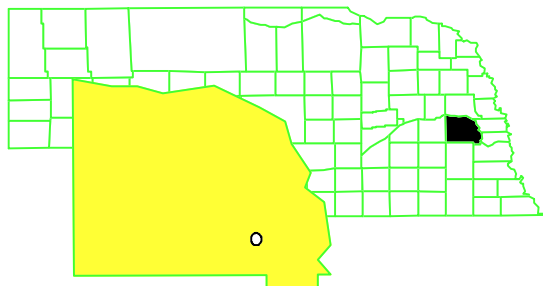


NEBRASKA ARMY ORDNANCE PLANT

NEBRASKA

EPA ID# NE6211890011



EPA Region 7

City: 1/2 mile south of Mead

County: Saunders County

Other Names: Mead Ordnance
Plant; University of Nebraska,
Mead Field Laboratory
Nebraska Ordnance Plant
(Former)

SITE DESCRIPTION

The 17,000-acre Nebraska Army Ordnance Plant site operated from 1942 to 1956 as a munitions production plant for four bomb loading lines during World War II and the Korean War. In addition, the plant was used by the Army for munitions storage and ammonium nitrate production. The Air Force also built and maintained three Atlas missile silos at the facility from 1959 to 1964. Some of the processes associated with these activities used organic solvents. Beginning in 1962, portions of the plant were sold to various entities. Today, the major production area of the former plant, approximately 9,000 acres, belongs to the University of Nebraska, which uses it as an agricultural research station. The remaining acreage is owned by the Nebraska National Guard and numerous individuals and corporations. Approximately 400 people obtain drinking water from wells located within 3 miles of the site. Groundwater also is used for crop irrigation and livestock watering.

Site Responsibility:

This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 10/26/89

Final Date: 08/30/90

Deleted Date:

THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS

Description:

The groundwater is contaminated with volatile organic compounds

(VOCs) and munitions wastes. The soil also is contaminated with munitions wastes. People who have direct contact with or ingest contaminated groundwater or soil may be at risk.

CLEANUP APPROACH

Response Action Status

Emergency Actions: In 1989, the U.S. Army determined that a private well was contaminated. The EPA immediately responded by providing the owners with bottled water, which later was provided by the Army. The Army has since installed a carbon filtration system at that residence and other nearby residences. The Army has undertaken actions to remove the PCB-contaminated soils from the site which was completed in 1997.

Soils: The Army began conducting an investigation in 1991 to determine the nature and extent of soil contamination at the site. The investigation was completed in 1993. A final cleanup remedy was selected in the fall of 1995. The remedy involved incinerating 16,500 cubic yards of explosive-contaminated soils on-site and was completed in 1998.

Groundwater: The Army completed an investigation into the nature and extent of groundwater contamination at the site in 1994. The proposed cleanup remedies were available for public comment in the fall of 1995. A Record of Decision (ROD) was signed in April 1997. The final remedy selected addresses contaminated groundwater, by containing, extracting, and treating groundwater on-site. The remedy is currently being designed.

Description:

Site Facts: The Nebraska Army Ordnance Plant site is participating in the Defense Environmental Restoration Program, a specially funded program established by the Department of Defense (DOD) in 1978 to identify, investigate, and control the migration of hazardous contaminants at military and other DOD facilities. An Interagency Agreement between the EPA, State, and Army was signed in 1991 to coordinate cleanup responsibilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS



Providing bottled water, installing carbon filtration systems, and removing "hot spots" of PCB-contaminated soil have reduced the potential of exposure to hazardous substances in the drinking water during design and implementation of the groundwater remedial action. Implementation of the remedial action to incinerate 16,500 cubic yards of explosives contaminated soils has resulted in permanent reduction of the migration of explosives from contaminated soils to groundwater.

SITE REPOSITORY



Ashland Public Library, 207 North 15th Street, Ashland, NE 68003 (402) 944-7430
Superfund Records Center
901 N. 5th St.
Kansas City, KS 66101
Mail Stop SUPR
(913)551-4038

REGIONAL CONTACTS

SITE MANAGER:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

Craig Bernstein
bernstein.craig@epa.gov.
(913) 551-7688

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

COORDINATOR:

PHONE NUMBER:

Dana Blubaugh
(913) 551-7577

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

STATE CONTACT:

PHONE NUMBER:

Ken Maas
(402) 471-2988

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

STATE:

PACIFIC ISLAND(S):

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

EPA ORGANIZATION:

077R
01
SFD-SUPR/FFSE

MODIFICATIONS